

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR FOX VALLEY WISCONSIN COUNTIES

October 2002



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for Fox Valley Area Decline in September

The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates for the counties in the Fox Valley Region generally followed seasonal patterns for the area and State of Wisconsin during September. The unadjusted rate for the region was down 0.4 of a percentage point to 4.1 percent for the month. All of the counties and the MSA in the region had a decline in the monthly rate in September.

The decline was typically seasonal in nature. Both the area's labor force and total employment levels decreased during the month, which is a seasonal pattern at the end of summer. The beginning of fall brings on the ending of many of the summer jobs created by tourism in the

area, although, not all are in this industry, as agriculture, manufacturing and construction also have peak summer demands which begin to wind down during mid August.

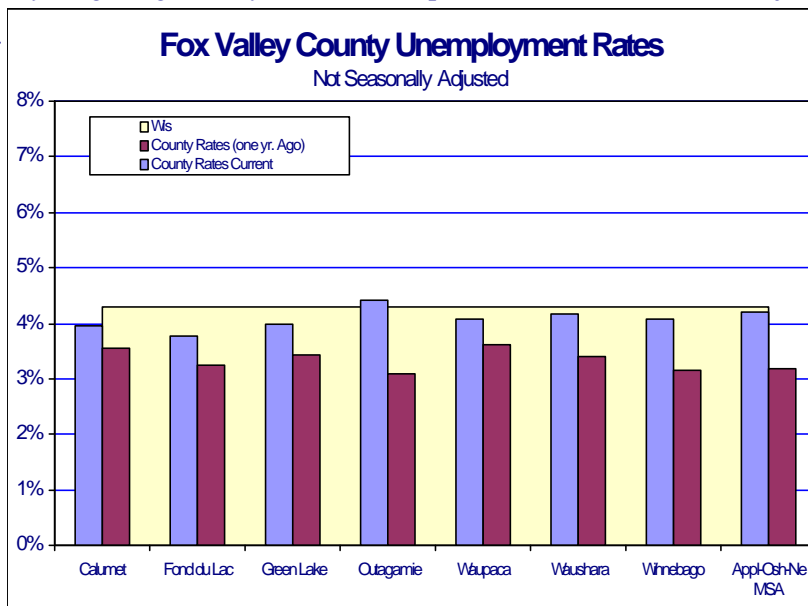
The area's labor force declined by 3,500 from August to September, while the number of employed dropped by 1,500. The number of unemployed declined 1,500 to 14,000. The total labor force size for the month was 340,600. This was an increase of 7,900 from last September. At the same time, the number employed was at 326,600, up 4,700 from this time last year.

The rate in the Fox Valley Area was 0.2 of a percentage point below the state's unadjusted rate of 4.3 percent.

The unadjusted rate for the state was down 0.5 of a percentage point from August as labor force and employment levels declined in a seasonal manner.

Although total employment declined during the month, nonfarm wage and salary (NFWs) employment posted a substantial increase over the month of August. September is somewhat of a pivotal

month in NFWs employment. There are two different seasonal patterns that occur during the month.



| Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted) | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------------|--|
| | Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA | Wisconsin | United States (000s) | |
| September-2002 | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 233,900 | 3,065,800 | 143,277 | |
| Employment | 222,400 | 2,910,900 | 135,185 | |
| Unemployment | 11,400 | 154,900 | 8,092 | |
| Unemployment rate | 4.9% | 5.1% | 5.6% | |
| August-2002 Change | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 2,200 | 5,200 | 661 | |
| Employment | 2,100 | 10,300 | 711 | |
| Unemployment | (100) | (5,100) | (50) | |
| Unemployment rate | -0.1% | -0.1% | -0.1% | |
| September-2001 Change | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 5,500 | 74,500 | 1,209 | |
| Employment | 2,400 | 54,000 | 181 | |
| Unemployment | 3,000 | 20,400 | 1,028 | |
| Unemployment rate | 1.2% | 0.6% | 0.7% | |

Note: All estimates are round and preliminary, based on place of residence.

On the one hand, you have declines in many of the industries that are related to tourism, although summer workers are also involved in agricultural, manufacturing, and construction employment as well. These jobs tend to decline at the end of summer, reducing employment in their respective industries. This month trade was down by nearly 500. Manufacturing was

down 850, this was probably a combination of seasonal jobs and the economy. On the opposite side, is the beginning of school. During September, as school begins,

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there is usually a large increase in government employment, this month nearly 2,300. This often offsets the declines in the other industries, masking changes that may be occurring in the economy.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

For the month of September, the seasonally adjusted rate for the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA dropped 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.9 percent. At this time last year the rate for the area

was 3.7 percent.

The nation's unemployment rate continued to decline as it dropped 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.6 percent for September. The rate for the State of Wisconsin decreased 0.1 of a percentage point, to 5.1 percent. To the north, the rate for the Green Bay MSA was 4.6 percent, down 0.2 of a percentage point.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

Labor Force and Employment Estimates for the Wisconsin Fox Valley Counties

| September-2002 | App/Osh/Neenah | Fond du Lac | Green Lake | Waupaca | Wausara | Region | Wisconsin |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Civilian Labor Force* | 232,600 | 57,400 | 11,000 | 27,600 | 12,100 | 340,600 | 3,050,200 |
| Employed | 222,800 | 55,200 | 10,600 | 26,500 | 11,600 | 326,600 | 2,919,600 |
| Unemployed | 9,800 | 2,200 | 400 | 1,100 | 500 | 14,000 | 130,600 |
| Unemployment rate(%) | 4.2% | 3.8% | 4.0% | 4.1% | 4.2% | 4.1% | 4.3% |
| Seasonally Adj. rate(%) | 4.9% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 5.1% |
| Total, all industries** | 207,200 | 49,700 | 7,900 | 22,100 | 6,200 | 286,800 | 2,856,100 |
| Construction & Mining | 13,900 | 3,600 | 700 | 1,000 | 300 | 19,100 | 135,700 |
| Manufacturing | 55,100 | 11,800 | 1,700 | 6,200 | 700 | 74,700 | 572,200 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 9,900 | 2,500 | 300 | 800 | 300 | 13,500 | 133,200 |
| Wholesale Trade | 9,300 | 1,900 | 100 | 900 | 300 | 12,200 | 137,200 |
| Retail Trade | 35,700 | 9,300 | 1,400 | 4,100 | 1,400 | 50,500 | 508,700 |
| Finance,Insurance,Real Estate | 9,600 | 1,900 | 300 | 700 | 200 | 12,500 | 153,600 |
| Services | 50,300 | 13,100 | 2,300 | 4,500 | 1,500 | 70,200 | 809,400 |
| Government | 23,200 | 5,700 | 1,200 | 4,000 | 1,400 | 34,200 | 406,100 |
| Change from previous month | | | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force* | -1,700 | -1,100 | -100 | -200 | -400 | -3,500 | -41,100 |
| Employed | -1,300 | -300 | 0 | 0 | -200 | -2,000 | -24,500 |
| Unemployed | -400 | -800 | -100 | -200 | -100 | -1,500 | -16,600 |
| Unemployment rate(%) | -0.1% | -1.3% | -0.3% | -0.5% | -1.0% | -0.4% | -0.5% |
| Seasonally Adj. rate(%) | -0.1% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | -0.1% |
| Total, all industries** | 1,200 | 300 | -100 | 100 | -100 | 1,500 | 3,600 |
| Construction & Mining | 390 | -40 | -20 | -20 | -20 | 310 | -3,200 |
| Manufacturing | -620 | -200 | -20 | 0 | 10 | -850 | -5,100 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 190 | 10 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 220 | 3,400 |
| Wholesale Trade | -170 | -40 | 0 | 10 | 10 | -200 | -1,200 |
| Retail Trade | -250 | -60 | -60 | -90 | -40 | -460 | -6,200 |
| Finance,Insurance,Real Estate | -50 | -20 | -10 | 0 | 0 | -70 | -1,100 |
| Services | 220 | 260 | -90 | -90 | -60 | 300 | -4,000 |
| Government | 1,480 | 350 | 150 | 300 | -20 | 2,280 | 21,000 |
| Change from year ago | | | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force* | 5,000 | 1,500 | 300 | 700 | 600 | 7,900 | 69,400 |
| Employed | 2,400 | 1,100 | 300 | 600 | 500 | 4,700 | 51,100 |
| Unemployed | 2,600 | 400 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 3,200 | 18,200 |
| Unemployment rate(%) | 1.0% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.5% | 0.8% | 0.9% | 0.5% |
| Seasonally Adj. rate(%) | 1.2% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 0.6% |
| Total, all industries** | -500 | 600 | -140 | 230 | 160 | 200 | 15,100 |
| Construction & Mining | 810 | 300 | 10 | 80 | 30 | 1,200 | 2,800 |
| Manufacturing | -3,400 | -610 | -120 | 10 | -10 | -4,100 | -12,900 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 290 | 250 | 0 | 20 | -10 | 550 | -1,200 |
| Wholesale Trade | 120 | 20 | -10 | -20 | 20 | 120 | -300 |
| Retail Trade | -560 | -40 | -40 | 20 | 50 | -630 | 2,300 |
| Finance,Insurance,Real Estate | 220 | 60 | 50 | 20 | 0 | 350 | 2,800 |
| Services | 1,410 | 580 | -30 | 10 | 110 | 1,980 | 27,100 |
| Government | 550 | 40 | 0 | 110 | -20 | 700 | -5,600 |

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted unless noted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers.

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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